

164. (Amended) A currency evaluation device for receiving a stack of currency bills and rapidly evaluating all the bills in the stack, the device comprising:

- an input receptacle adapted to receive a stack of bills to be evaluated;
- [exactly] two or more output receptacles adapted to receive the bills after the bills have been evaluated;
- a transport mechanism adapted to transport the bills, one at a time, from the input receptacle to the output receptacles along a transport path;
- a discriminating unit adapted to count and denominate the bills, the discriminating unit including a detector positioned along the transport path between the input receptacle and the output receptacles; and
- a processor programmed to determine whether the bills meet or fail to meet a non-piece count related criterion, the processor being programmed to cause the transport mechanism to halt in response to a determination that a bill meets or fails to meet the criterion, a bill meeting or failing to meet the criterion being termed a flagged bill, the processor being adapted to cause the transport mechanism to halt with a flagged bill being positioned as the last bill in one of the output receptacles.

REMARKS

Claims 164-337 are pending in the application. Claims 164-213 have been elected in response to the election/restriction requirement. Claim 1 has been cancelled without prejudice. Claim 164 has been amended to correct a typographical error.

Applicants have included clean and marked-up versions of the pending claims after entry of this amendment with the mailed copy of this Response.

FUTURE COMMUNICATIONS

All future communications should be addressed as follows:

Stephen G. Rudisill
Jenkins & Gilchrist
225 West Washington Street, Suite 2600
Chicago, Illinois 60606

CONCLUSION

The Applicants submit that the claims are in a condition for allowance and action toward that end is earnestly solicited. The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge deposit Account No. 10-0447 (47171-00268USC1) for any fees inadvertently omitted which may be necessary now or during the pendency of this application, except for the issue fee.

Respectfully submitted,



John C. Gatz

Reg. No. 41,774

Jenkins & Gilchrist, P.C.

1445 Ross Avenue, Suite 3200

Dallas, Texas 75202-2799

(312) 425-3900

Attorneys for Applicants

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Date